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Proclamation 6819—America Goes Back to School, 1995

September 8, 1995

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

The beginning of a new school year is a time of renewal and anticipation for families, educators, and communities across America. Teachers ready their classrooms and curricula; law enforcement officers redouble their efforts to keep neighborhoods safe and drug-free; businesses work with schools to create stronger partnerships; and parents everywhere encourage their children to look forward to the challenges ahead.

This time of year also provides us with an occasion to renew our faith in the promise of education—the spark that lights our ambitions and gives us the tools to grow and succeed. To ensure America's continued leadership in the coming century, we must empower every citizen with the knowledge and training necessary to meet new and varied challenges. The generation of young people in school today deserves our Nation's pledge to help them get on the right course and make the most of their lives.

Improving education means strengthening families and schools. Families are responsible for raising children, and parents are their first and most important teachers. Schools are responsible for providing children with quality education and meaningful guidance. But schools and families cannot do it alone. Instead, religious organizations, community leaders, older Americans, volunteer groups, service agencies, industries, and every caring individual must work together, realizing that the complexity of our diverse and changing society demands innovative and effective solutions for helping our children embrace the values of good citizenship.

In March 1994 I signed into law the Goals 2000: Educate America Act, which supports grassroots efforts to help schoolchildren meet high standards for achievement and discipline. School-to-Work programs are uniting businesses, community colleges, and high schools to provide work-study experience and technical expertise, and a new system of direct loans is making a college education more affordable and accessible. This year the Department of Education is deepening its commitment to parent and community involvement by joining the Family Involvement Partnership for Learning to sponsor America Goes Back to School: A Place for Families and the Community. This initiative encourages all Americans to take part in the drive for excellence in education. I am proud that the Department has acted boldly to foster support for America's families and students.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 11 through September 18, 1995, as a time when "America Goes Back to School." I call upon parents, community and State leaders, businesses, civic and religious organizations, and all our citizens to observe this period with appropriate ceremonies and activities expressing support for schools and colleges, children and families, and to continue their active involvement on behalf of America's students throughout the year.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:46 a.m., September 11, 1995]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 11, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on September 12.

Proclamation 6820—Classical Music Month, 1995

September 9, 1995

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Classical music is one of the glories of the world, a living tradition that enriches the lives of millions of Americans. In the concert halls of our bustling cities, in the community centers of our small towns, and in countless homes everywhere, classical music brings joy and inspiration to our citizens. Its phrases and themes have long spoken to our national love of beauty and our common passion for spirited expression.

More than one hundred years ago, the Bohemian composer Antonín Dvořák came to America—traveling from New York to Iowa to admire the awesome potential of this great land. The New World Symphony, Dvořák's tribute to our country, touches us still with its references to the music of Native American and African American people.

Indeed, classical music is a universal language. Whether the musicians speak English, Spanish, Russian, Japanese, or Hebrew, all recognize the same notes. Whatever cultural tradition is evoked by its cords and rhythms, classical music stirs emotions we all share. Among the many music lovers gathered to enjoy a performance, each individual listener feels the powerful dynamism of music's resonant voice.

This month, let us celebrate the artistic excellence that brings classical music to life. We honor the many remarkable composers, conductors, and performers of the past whose works continue to delight us, and we applaud today's musicians, whose talents remind us of the continuity and grandeur of the human experience. Each has contributed to the vast body of music that entertains and inspires people around the globe.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 1995, as "Classical Music Month." I call upon government officials, educators, community or-

ganizations, and all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities paying tribute to the extraordinary diversity and artistry of classical music.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

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Roundtable Discussion With Students on Student Loans at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois

September 11, 1995

The President. Is everybody in? For the members of the press corps that came in with me, as you know, I have been doing these roundtable discussions with students and faculty members and others in colleges around the country. And this is the kickoff of a back-to-school week we're doing this year to emphasize the choices that have to be made in Washington in the next 60 days that will affect education. And so I came here to Southern Illinois University.

One of the big issues is what's going to happen to the student loan program and, particularly, the direct loan program which our administration started. So I thought that we should start by having Pam Britton, who is in charge of financial aid here at SIU, talk a little bit about how it works—the direct loan program—and what you're doing here.

So, Pam, why don't you lead it off.

[At this point, Ms. Britton welcomed the President and asked the participating students to introduce themselves. Following the introductions, Ms. Britton explained how important the student loan program is to the